

April 2009



CANYONS DISTRICT ARBITRATION AWARD

If you have been following the drama regarding the creation of the new Canyons School District, you are aware that the arbitration panel issued their award on Wednesday, March 18. After nearly two years of study, hearings, education forums, debate, legislative action, court challenges, negotiations, and arbitration, the Canyons School District is finally in a position to make definitive plans and prepare a budget for its first year of operation. On July 1, 2009, it will become an independent school district, equal to the other forty districts in the state and the first new district to be created in nearly 100 years. Those of us living in Cottonwood Heights, Midvale, Draper, Sandy, Alta, and the areas of unincorporated county scattered among us should take pride in what has been accomplished and can anticipate great innovation in the way our children are educated.

The award grants 41 schools to Canyons District and its 33,000 students. Most are elementary, junior high, and middle schools that prepare our children to move on to one of four high schools: Brighton, Hillcrest, Jordan, and Alta. All furniture, fixtures, and equipment (FF&Es) in

the 41 schools and the busses that service each school are also part of the award to the Canyons District. According to Dr. David Doty, Canyons District Superintendent, all of the schools will be fully prepared to receive students as they begin their 2009 – 2010 school year.

In addition to the school buildings and FF&Es, the Canyons District also has the existing administration



building at 9400 South and 300 East and other buildings that are now being utilized by Jordan School District and are physically located on the east side of the Jordan River. Based on enrollment numbers, Canyons will also receive 41% of the various district funds; and the new Jordan District will receive 59% of funds for reserves, vocational instruction, programs, capital projects, employee health and

accident insurance, etc., along with revenue such as property taxes and state and federal allocations.

There are also various student and Jordan Education Foundation funds that relate to specific schools that will remain with those schools.

On the other side of the ledger, the bonded indebtedness of the old Jordan District will be divided according to state law with a split of 58%/42% with Canyons responsible for the larger amount based on property valuations.

So, after all this time, who won and who lost in the final arbitration? Both new school districts have issued statements in support of the division. But a careful look at the results suggests both districts lost some arguments and both won other arguments. That's generally the way compromise decisions go. The Canyons District argued before the arbitration panel that the value of the schools should be considered since the schools that are geographically in the new Jordan District are, on average, at least 20 years newer than the Canyons District schools. This would have resulted in a significant cash payment from the new Jordan District to the Canyons

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CITY INFORMATION: City Council Members

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Recorder.....944-7021
Treasurer.....944-7075
Finance Director.....944-7077
Code Enforcement.....944-7095
Customer Service.....944-7000
Public Information.....944-7015
Police Administration.....944-7100
City Events.....944-7001

To hear the agenda for the next city council meeting call: 944-7003

For the planning commission agenda call 944-7004

For details about the agendas, check our web site:

www.cottonwoodheights.utah.gov

NUMBERS TO KNOW:

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Dispatch..... 840-4000

Fire Authority..... 743-7100

Animal Control.....944-7095

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Chief's CORNER

Lock Up Those Guns



Chief Robby Russo

Last month a 16-year-old Provo girl was shot and killed in the basement of a friend's home by a 13-year old boy who was playing with a gun he had removed without permission from his grandfather's residence. He thought the gun was not loaded. The victim, Katelyn Mikolasy, was a Timpview High School student. She died before arriving at the hospital.

This is a sobering reminder of how precious and fragile life is and how dangerous loaded firearms can

be. As police officers, the faces of children who are victims become ingrained upon our psyche. As a Police Department we work to protect our children from such horrible accidents.

The Cottonwood Heights Police Department (CHPD) will provide two (2) free firearm safety kits to local residents through a partnership with Project ChildSafe, the nationwide firearms safety education program. While they last, the safety kits, which include a gun lock, are available during regular business hours from CHPD located at 1265 East Fort Union.

Project ChildSafe, a program developed by the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF), has distributed more than 35 million firearm safety kits throughout the country since 2003. The program is funded by a U.S. Department of

Justice grant, with additional funding provided by the firearms industry.

I encourage residents to pick up a Project ChildSafe safety kit so they can safely and securely store their firearms. "Each kit contains a safety curriculum and a cable-style gun lock. The locks fit on most types of handguns, rifles and shotguns. The goal is to prevent a child or any other unauthorized person from accessing a firearm in your home.

By partnering with Project ChildSafe, CHPD is participating in a national effort to promote firearms safety education to all gun owners. Project ChildSafe is an important step forward in helping ensure that all firearm owners fully understand their responsibilities with respect to the safe handling and storage of firearms.

We're often asked if keeping your

continued Chief's Corner



New CHPD Officers



Ryan Shosted, an eight year veteran with the Sandy Police Department, has recently joined CHPD. Officer Shosted's experience includes three years with the Detective Unit where he specialized in major cases. He is certified as a voice stress analyzer examiner, a crisis intervention officer, and a hostage negotiator. He also served on the cyber-crime and fraud task forces and received special training conducting children's interviews along with rape, death, and homicide investigations. He will complete his BS Degree this spring.



Jonathan Lampshire began his career with the Salt Lake City Police Department after graduating from the SLCC Police Academy. Officer Lampshire is an expert marksman and received the "Top Gun" Award at the Academy. He is a native of western Colorado and went to college on a baseball scholarship. Prior to becoming a police officer, he was a golf professional in Salt Lake valley. He has been a police officer for three years and his initial assignment with CHPD is nighttime patrol.

COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS NEWEST K9 TEAM CORNERS FUGITIVE



The city's rookie K9, Storm, and his veteran handler, Officer Ken Eatchel, tracked and cornered a suspected parole violator in the Holladay area last month. After Highway Patrol troopers ended a car chase with the fugitive by placing spikes on the road and causing him to lose control of

the stolen vehicle he was driving, he crashed into a fence. He and a passenger then left the car and ran.

While Officers chased the fugitive one direction, Storm, a dog recently acquired by CHPD, took his handler another direction. He followed the scent for about a block then cornered the man under a parked car. He kept him there until back-up arrived at which time his handler sent him under the car to get the fugitive out. He did as commanded and as trained to do and the arrest was made.

Storm was about 18 months old when purchased four months ago. He is still in training with Officer Eatchel.

IF THE SHOE DOESN'T FIT... DONATE IT!

If you don't know what to do with those pairs of shoes that you never wear anymore, tie them together and bring them to the city offices sometime during April. Donate them to be used in Iraq, Afghanistan or Tonga. Cottonwood Heights has been challenged to a contest by our sister-city to the south, Sandy, to see which city can donate the most shoes to the needy in war torn and impoverished nations. Mayor Cullimore has committed all of us by accepting this challenge. Sandy's population is just over twice that of Cottonwood Heights. Our only hope is that we have more shoes per capita and are more willing to part with some of them.

Casual observation of residents walking around town gives ample evidence that Cottonwood Heights has the more stylish dressers, with many having a pair of shoes for each outfit. Even a visit to council meeting and checking out the council's feet will substantiate this claim. So----all we need to do is

check in the back of the closet for those shoes that haven't been worn for a few weeks or months, carry them to the city office, and deposit them in the receptacles placed there specifically for that purpose.

The sponsor of this worthy effort is Wentworth at Willow Creek Assisted Living; and they, in cooperation with charities with which they work, will take care of packaging and shipping.

This is a unique project with which everyone can help. There is nothing to buy, no one is asking for money, and you finally have a place to put those shoes that you just can't throw in the garbage because they aren't completely worn out. Bring them to the city office and leave them for someone who really will appreciate them. All sizes, shapes, materials, colors, styles, and conditions will be accepted. This is a chance to band together for a good cause and help some very needy folk.



APRIL CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

All City Council business meetings are held in the council chambers, 1265 East Fort Union Blvd., Ste. 300. The work meetings are held in the conference room at the same address but in Ste. 250. The April meeting schedule is as follows:

- **Tuesday, April 7th**
6 p.m. Work Meeting
- **Tuesday, April 14th**
6 p.m. Work Meeting (*reconvenes following business meeting*)
7 p.m. Business Meeting
- **Tuesday, April 21st**
6 p.m. Work Meeting
- **Tuesday, April 28th**
6 p.m. Work Meeting (*reconvenes following business meeting*)
7 p.m. Business Meeting

Chief's CORNER

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gun locked up defeats the purpose of having it for self-protection. A loaded gun should be under your full control and supervision at all times. When you're not able to supervise that loaded firearm, it should be unloaded and securely

stored. If you choose to keep a firearm for home security, you should consider buying special lockable cases that can be quickly opened only by you. Prevent a tragedy and protect yourself from a law suit. Lock up those guns!



BICYCLE SAFETY TIPS

About a year ago, the city formed a Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) to provide suggestions to the city council about bicycling and bicycle safety in our city. Our proximity to the two canyons results in myriad bicyclists on Fort Union, Bengal, and Wasatch Blvds. The convergence of bicycles, motorized vehicles, and on occasion pedestrians, presents numerous possibilities for accidents. In fact, there have been a couple of serious bicycle/automobile accidents near Cottonwood Heights in the past month. The BAC, which is a group of active bicyclists, in anticipation of an increase in bicycles now that spring is here, offer the following tips for bicycle safety:

- One of the most common causes of an auto/bike collision is when a car pulls onto a main road from a side street, parking lot, or driveway on the bicyclist's right. Safety conscious bikers will have a daytime lighted headlight, honk at such intersections, slow down when approaching such intersections, and ride farther to the left, away from the curb, so they are more visible.
- Another common cause of collision is when a vehicle driver opens his street side door in front of a cyclist who is unable to avoid hitting it. Safety conscious bikers will ride far enough to the left that they won't run into an open vehicle door. One is more likely to get hit by an open door of a parked car than by a vehicle coming up from behind.

Watch the NEWS JOURNAL each month for additional bicycle safety tips from the BAC.



SPRING AND PUBLIC WORKS ARE COMPATIBLE

In spite of the somewhat surprising and untimely snowstorms that hit us near the end of March, Public Works is gearing up for major activity, some of which will begin this month (April). Deputy City Manager Kevin Smith has listed the following projects as being "ready-to-go" within the first few weeks of real spring weather:

- Water line upgrades on Creek Road between Highland Drive and 3500 East. This project will last most of the summer and will include different sections of culinary water pipe being replaced by Salt Lake City Public Utilities.
- Construction of sidewalk corner accessibility ramps and storm water cross gutters on Nutree Drive between Winesap Drive and Bywater Park.
- Completion of the first phase of the Cottonwood Canyon Trail project between I-215 and 3000 East. This trail will ultimately run to Wasatch Blvd., near the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon.
- Begin construction on second phase of the Cottonwood Canyon Trail, between Old Mill Circle and Vista Grande Drive.
- Asphalt overlay projects on Fort Union Blvd., between 1700 East and Highland Drive, and on Union Park Avenue, between Creek Road and Fort Union Blvd.
- Various beautification projects including the installation of planter boxes at city bus stops and upgrading the right of way landscaping on Highland Drive.
- Enhancement of access to 2200 East from Lonsdale Drive. This will involve the removal of a cross gutter that creates a problem for storm water conveyance and vehicle access.
- Installation of speed control radar equipment at 1400 East and at 2650 East on Creek Road.
- Crosswalk safety improvements at the mid-block crossing in front of Brighton High School.



District "Town Meetings" To Be Held In April

Residents of city council districts 2, 3, and 4 will have opportunity in April to meet with their councilman, Mayor Kelvyn Cullimore, City Manager Liane Stillman and other staff members who will be available to discuss their areas of responsibility. The "town hall" type meetings provide opportunity for residents to be brought up to speed on city accomplishments and concerns and to speak to and ask questions about issues of importance to them.

Each discussion will begin with the viewing of a video featuring the progress that has been made since incorporation in January, 2005. The councilman for the respective districts will then address the audience on items of interest to the specific district. This will be followed by an open discussion of any items to which citizens want to speak. There will be a time limit set on those addressing the council in order for all who want to speak to have an opportunity to do so.

The meetings are scheduled as follows:

District 2 – Wednesday, April 8 – Councilman Scott Bracken

District 3 – Wednesday, April 22 – Councilman Don Antczak

District 4 – Wednesday, April 29 – Councilman Bruce Jones

The meeting for **District 1** – Councilman Gordon Thomas, was held on Wednesday, March 25.

All meetings will be held in the council chambers on the third floor of the city office building (1265 East Fort Union Blvd.). Items for discussion will include: CHPD, Canyons School District, Emergency Planning, Big Cottonwood Canyon Trail, Lighting in Old Mill Estates, Timberline Trailhead, Short-term Rentals, Art Council, St. Thomas More construction, Bengal Blvd. refuge island, new parks, fire mitigation at Crestwood Park, etc. Of this list, some relate only to a specific district and will be discussed only at that meeting, unless citizens from other districts want to discuss them.

Post cards are being sent to all residents of the city and will be received a few days before the respective district meetings. Information is also available on the city website at www.cottonwoodheights.utah.gov.



Call for Butlerville Days Parade Entries



If you want to be in this year's Butlerville Days parade, get an application on line at www.cottonwoodheights.utah.gov or call Melissa Lowry at 801-953-5609.

The fifth annual Butlerville Days celebration is gearing up for what is hoped will be the biggest parade yet. As in previous years, it will begin at 4 p.m. at Butler Elementary School. It will travel south on 2700 East, past the Rec. Center and Middle School, to Bengal Blvd., where it will turn west and travel to the west side of the Guthrie Skate Park.

This is one of only a handful of parades held in the afternoon of July 24th and each year has seen more entries and more parade goers than the previous year. This year's parade will have a western theme and there will be a Cottonwood Heights' city float in addition to floats from other cities, marching bands, classic cars, clowns, equestrians, business entries, dance teams and other groups.

Canyons District Arbitration Award

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District. The arbitration panel rejected this argument primarily because there was no consensus on the values of the individual school buildings and the property on which they stand.

On the other side of the coin, the new Jordan District argued that there should be a sliding scale established that would make the Canyons District responsible for more and more of the new Jordan District's indebtedness as the enrollment of the Jordan District continues to grow and the percentages now extant change during the coming years. The arbitration panel also rejected this contention as it would have the Canyons District residents continuing to subsidize the new Jordan District on into the future, beyond the Jordan District's current indebtedness.

There are other examples of the give and take that the arbitration panel dealt with in attempting to arrive at a fair and equitable decision. Their report states the following in regards to the decisions they made:

"The panel concludes that the overarching standard for determining whether an allocation is 'fair and equitable' is that, at a minimum, the day the two new districts assume

the responsibilities of the Old JSD [July 1, 2009] they are each capable of performing their core functions—funding the operation of the district and providing for the education of their students and the maintenance and construction of necessary facilities while continuing to pay off bonds of the old district, all without measurably eroding the quality of the education provided when compared to Old JSD" (p.35, *Arbitration Award*).



As residents and taxpayers in the Canyons School District, we can be reassured by Superintendent David Doty, PhD, who stated, "I support the decision because it provides the Canyons School District with financial solvency, the ability to operate independently, and a sound base of resources with which to begin addressing the needs of individual schools within the boundaries of the new district. In short, I do feel that the decision was 'fair and equitable' and an appropriate outcome given the language and purposes of the split legislation, as well as the unique circumstances facing both new school districts..." (Between the Lines, March 20, 2009).

An Open Letter from CHPD to you

Please attend the city-wide Neighborhood Watch Organization meeting scheduled for May 20th, 2009.

CHPD is working hard to protect your homes and property, but frankly, we need your help. We need your eyes, ears, and voices to report what you see and hear. More than that, we need partners who will approach crime prevention in a proactive, community-oriented endeavor. Neighborhood Watch is the blueprint for such a partnership.

Neighborhood Watch is simply getting to know your neighbors and then helping one another. Working together to make your neighborhood a better and safer place will increase its livability. Neighborhood Watch is crime prevention at its best. It's more than locks and hardware; it's you working in partnership with your police department. Community involvement and being aware of your surroundings are key elements for an effective Neighborhood Watch.

Today's Neighborhood Watch programs incorporate activities that not only address crime prevention issues, but also restore pride and unity to a neighborhood and help to prepare for emergencies. Community Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) are well established in Cottonwood Heights and are a good fit with Neighborhood Watch. The boundaries established by CERT will be used to define Neighborhood

Watch areas. It is not uncommon to see members of Neighborhood Watch groups participating in community activities designed to improve the quality of life.

Remember! To establish the framework of Neighborhood Watch in Cottonwood Heights an organizational meeting will be held May 20th at 7:00 in the City Council Chambers (1265 East Fort Union Blvd., Ste. 300). Your input and ideas are important. Anyone who is interested in Neighborhood Watch is welcome to attend. Your police department is asking for volunteers to help create a Neighborhood Watch advisory committee. The role of the committee will be to:

- Establish the responsibilities of each neighborhood watch member.
- Make a draft of specific issues that affect the community (defining your area's problems will help you come up with solutions).
- Implement a communication system through telephones, e-mail, website, etc.
- Recruit and train neighbors interested in crime prevention and neighborhood watch.

A Neighborhood Watch program is not a substitute for law enforcement. Do not take actions that will put you or others in danger. When you find a problem, call dispatch at 840-4000 or, if it's an emergency, call 911.

Cottonwood Heights

(Butler Park fields, 2700 E. 7500 S.)

FREE KIDS EGG HUNT with the Easter Bunny & over 13,000 eggs!

Saturday April 11, 2009 9:00 am

Come early to find the field for your age group:
ages 0-2 (Each Bunny Helper has a different surprise)
ages 3-4 (No parental assistance)

ages 5-8 and ages 9-12

BRING YOUR OWN BASKET

Before event:

A light breakfast will be available for purchase
(proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society)

Take a tour of a UFA Fire Engine & Safety Trailer

After event:

There will be a Kite Festival by Utah Kite Club

*In the event of inclement weather, eggs will be passed out in a drive-thru at the Rec Center *

For Teens: FREE FLASHLIGHT EGG HUNT!

ages 13-17

Friday April 10, 2009

Youth City Council will assist.

BRING YOUR OWN FLASHLIGHT

8:00 - 9:00 pm FREE pizza & soda with live Karaoke

9:00 pm Easter Egg Hunt

9:15 - 10:30 pm FREE ice skating



Event sponsored by:



COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS
PARKS & RECREATION

